

significant secondary structural elements by the linker. Preferred linkers are often flexible amino acid subsequences that are synthesized as part of a recombinant fusion protein comprising the RNA recognition domain. In one embodiment, the flexible linker is an amino acid subsequence that includes a proline, such as Gly(x)-Pro-Gly(x) (SEQ ID NO:5) where x is a number between about 3 and about 100. In other embodiments, a chemical linker is used to connect synthetically or recombinantly produced recognition and labeling domain subsequences. Such flexible linkers are known to persons of skill in the art. For example, poly(ethylene glycol) linkers are available from Shearwater Polymers, Inc. Huntsville, Alabama. These linkers optionally have amide linkages, sulphydryl linkages, or heterofunctional linkages.--

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 30, line 8, with the following:

--Appropriate PCR primers were made corresponding to the coding sequence of the 5' and 3' ends of the *B. anthracis* SAP gene (see primer sequence below). These primers were based on a published nucleotide sequence (Etienne-Toumelin *et al.*, *supra*). DNA encoding the native signal sequence of SAP (amino acids 1-29) was purposefully omitted from the cloning since a functional signal sequence was provided by the expression vector pBRncoH3 (described in copending, commonly-owned US patent application Ser. No. 08/835,159, filed April 4, 1997). The 5' primer contains 23 bases of vector sequence at its 5'-end that corresponds to the 3'-end of the pBRncoH3 vector. The 3' primer contains 19 bases of the tetracycline promoter, removed by *Hind*III digestion in the vector, in addition to 20 bases of vector sequence 3' to the *Hind*III site. The 3' primer was also engineered to encode a hexahistidine amino acid tag at the C-terminus of the SAP protein to allow for efficient purification using nickel-chelate affinity chromatography (see below).

5' PCR primer: 5' - TCGCTGCCAACCGCCATGGCCGCAGGTAAAA
CATTCCCAGAC -3' (SEQ ID NO:3)

3' PCR primer: 5' - GTGATAAACTACCGCATTAAAGCTTATCGATGATA
AGCTGTCAATTAGTGATGGTGATGGTGATGTTTG
TTGCAGGTTTGCTTCTT -3' (SEQ ID NO:4)--

Please insert the accompanying paper copy of the Sequence Listing, page numbers 1 to 6, at the end of the application.